



SHELBURNE

Franklin County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Graced by the beautiful Deerfield River, Shelburne is located just off the famous Mohawk trail and is minutes from I-91. It is like stepping back in time to visit this living example of a nineteenth century New England village. Shelburne is a community dedicated to preserving the purity and simplicity of an earlier day and residents are proud of the restored buildings, spectacular surroundings and undiluted New England spirit. Visitors are invited to stroll across the river on the internationally known Bridge of Flowers, to walk from there to an old Indian fishing ground and to see Salmon Falls and the Glacial Potholes. The Potholes are amazing rock formations carved in the river bed - a direct view of several hundred million years of geological evolution. Visitors can browse through the shops of Shelburne, enjoy the friendly atmosphere of local restaurants and discover the charm of the town and the richness and variety of the region on many return visits.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Colrain on the north, Greenfield on the east, Deerfield and Conway on the southeast and south, and Buckland on the west. Shelburne is 7 miles west of Greenfield, 50 northeast of Pittsfield, 102 miles northwest of Boston, and about 160 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 23.45 sq. miles

Land Area: 23.25 sq. miles

Population: 2,012

Density: 87 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Cummington Hill Station)

Normal temperature in January.....19.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....67.3°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.0"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Shelburne Falls, Colrain

Regional Planning Agency

Franklin County

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 625-0301

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1768

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	1,199		
Democrats	302	25.2	%
Republicans	183	15.3	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	714	59.5	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Shelburne town, Franklin County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	2,058	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	2,058	100.0
Male.....	974	47.3	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	12	0.6
Female.....	1,084	52.7	Mexican.....	1	-
Under 5 years.....	75	3.6	Puerto Rican.....	4	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	111	5.4	Cuban.....	-	-
10 to 14 years.....	145	7.0	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	7	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	153	7.4	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	2,046	99.4
20 to 24 years.....	78	3.8	White alone.....	1,996	97.0
25 to 34 years.....	175	8.5	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	298	14.5	Total population.....	2,058	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	384	18.7	In households.....	1,930	93.8
55 to 59 years.....	136	6.6	Householder.....	834	40.5
60 to 64 years.....	82	4.0	Spouse.....	419	20.4
65 to 74 years.....	187	9.1	Child.....	500	24.3
75 to 84 years.....	162	7.9	Own child under 18 years.....	400	19.4
85 years and over.....	72	3.5	Other relatives.....	45	2.2
Median age (years).....	44.8	(X)	Under 18 years.....	9	0.4
18 years and over.....	1,623	78.9	Nonrelatives.....	132	6.4
Male.....	745	36.2	Unmarried partner.....	68	3.3
Female.....	878	42.7	In group quarters.....	128	6.2
21 years and over.....	1,559	75.8	Institutionalized population.....	75	3.6
62 years and over.....	464	22.5	Noninstitutionalized population.....	53	2.6
65 years and over.....	421	20.5	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	151	7.3	Total households.....	834	100.0
Female.....	270	13.1	Family households (families).....	518	62.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	230	27.6
One race.....	2,035	98.9	Married-couple family.....	419	50.2
White.....	2,002	97.3	With own children under 18 years.....	161	19.3
Black or African American.....	10	0.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	62	7.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	9	0.4	With own children under 18 years.....	48	5.8
Asian.....	5	0.2	Nonfamily households.....	316	37.9
Asian Indian.....	1	-	Householder living alone.....	253	30.3
Chinese.....	2	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	115	13.8
Filipino.....	-	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	242	29.0
Japanese.....	1	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	243	29.1
Korean.....	-	-	Average household size.....	2.31	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.86	(X)
Other Asian ¹	1	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	886	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	834	94.1
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	1	-	Vacant housing units.....	52	5.9
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	13	1.5
Some other race.....	8	0.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.9	(X)
Two or more races.....	23	1.1	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.2	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	834	100.0
White.....	2,023	98.3	Owner-occupied housing units.....	524	62.8
Black or African American.....	17	0.8	Renter-occupied housing units.....	310	37.2
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	21	1.0	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.57	(X)
Asian.....	9	0.4	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.87	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	2	0.1			
Some other race.....	10	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 46

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The major axes of transportation in Franklin County, where Shelburne is located, are State Route 2 and Interstate Route 91, which follows the Connecticut River. The region is well-served by rail. The Springfield Terminal Railway lines (the former Boston and Maine Railroad) parallel the two major highways, and the Central Vermont Railway's main line passes N-S through the eastern portion of the county.

Major Highways

The principal highway is State Route 2, which runs E-W across northern Massachusetts and forms an interchange with Interstate Route 91 going N-S in the neighboring town of Greenfield.

Rail

Freight service is available from the Springfield Terminal Railway. Contact number: (508) 663-1073.

Bus

Shelburne is a member of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA), which supplies fixed route service between Shelburne, Charlemont, and Greenfield when Charlemont Academy is in session. FRTA also provides paratransit service for the elderly and disabled through the Shelburne Council on Aging.

Other

The Turners Falls Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 3,013'x 75' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Anchorage Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

Labelles Rest Home

Mohawk Manor Rest Home Inc

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.